

WHAT DOES SAFETY LOOK LIKE?

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INTRODUCTION

Who am I?

AGENDA

LET'S EXPLORE!

What does safety look like?

What happens when people feel safe?

**Exploring our own definitions and
approaches.**

Exploring different perspectives.

ACTIVITY:
WHAT DOES SAFETY LOOK LIKE?

WRITE 1-2 WORDS ON YOUR STICKY NOTE
AND STICK TO THE WALL.

**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE FEEL SAFE?**

**WHAT ARE YOU
LIKELY TO DO
WHEN YOU FEEL
SAFE?**

**WHAT DOORS
OPEN UP WHEN
PATRONS FEEL
SAFE?**



EXPLORING OUR OWN DEFINITIONS

SAFETY

“the condition of being protected from or unlikely to cause danger, risk, or injury” (Google)

A large, horizontal, textured blue brushstroke background, resembling a watercolor or paint stroke, spanning most of the width of the page. The color is a deep teal or blue-green, with some lighter and darker variations within the stroke, giving it a hand-painted appearance. It is centered vertically on the page.

WHAT DID WE SAY?

“

“All individuals seek to be comfortable within their surroundings, being able to fully express their thoughts and feelings without fear of being ridiculed and with knowledge that they will be heard.”

- Jemima Homawoo

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN
FOR LIBRARIES?

SAFE AND WELCOMING?

We want our libraries to feel safe and welcoming to patrons and staff.

- ▶ Cleanliness
- ▶ Representation
- ▶ Accessibility
- ▶ Rules and norms
- ▶ Relationships & interactions
- ▶ Programming

WHAT ARE SOME COMMON DOWNFALLS FOR ME?

- ▶ Tasking mindset
- ▶ Being overwhelmed
- ▶ Making assumptions (unconsciously)
- ▶ What are my buttons

HOW DO I WORK AROUND MY SHORTCOMINGS?

- ▶ Express curiosity over judgement.
- ▶ What happened to you?
- ▶ Be empathic.
- ▶ Recognize complexity.
- ▶ Offer programming that builds community.
- ▶ Ask for and incorporate ideas of the people we serve.
- ▶ Be familiar with resources.

ACTIVITY:

EXPLORING OTHER PERSPECTIVES

Pick a group, depending on your interest/experience. Try to be in groups of about 8-10 so everyone has the chance to speak. You'll have 10 minutes



THANK YOU!

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